expenses of Rs. 2252 crores on account of travelling, communication, sales, freight, transportation, handling and other expenses for 1994-95;

(c) whether Indian Oil Corporation are charging freight and transportation cost through its pipelines of about 5293 kms., at par with the Railway freight for transporting Petroleum products; and

(d) if not, what are the rates being charged for transportation through pipelines and by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yest Sir.

(b) As per the accounting principles and practices, recovery of charges towards freight and transportation from bulk consumers including rcftail outlets are accounted as a part of turnover on gross basis. These recoveries are as per the rates fixed by Government from time to time in respect of products, prices of which are controlled by the Government. Accordingly, the expenses are incurred and also accounted for under the relevant hands of accounts on gross basis. These are also the requirements of Schedule VI to the Companies Act, 1956.

(c) and (d) Under the existing pricing mechanism applicable to administered products, through the product may be moved through pipeline, the transportation charges equivalent to frozen Notional Railway freight applicable pre-1.12.86 alongwith increases effected in 1992 and 1995 is being recovered from the customer. However, in exceptional cases, even transportation cost of pipeline is being recovered from consumer.

Increasing the production from oilfields

632. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) the strategy devised to increase domestic production from the existing oilfields;

(b) whether Government propose to delink services sector from oil exploration companies, to enable them to concentrate on more production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) The production from the existing fields is sought to be increased through—

- — Implementation of new projects/ schemes and additional development of existing fields.
- — Implementation FOR Schemes and extending some of EOR Schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.
- — Implementation of specialised technologies such as ERD, side track, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
- — Obtaining services of international experts wherever considered necessary.
- — 3-D seismic survey of the oil fields.
- — Rectificatory measures such as aggressive workovers, use of specialised technologies like long/ short drift side track, drain hole have been planned for revival of sick wells which still have potential.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Development of an Oil Tank farm by the London based Foresight Group

633. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINSITER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a London-based Foresigh; Group, promoted by an NRI, is planning a project in India to develop an oil tank farm for storage of crude oil, refined petroleum products and Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG);